

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

AN EXAMINATION BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE)	
COMMISSION OF THE APPLICATION OF THE)	
FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE OF BIG RIVERS)	CASE NO. 96-521
ELECTRIC CORPORATION FROM NOVEMBER 1,)	
1994 TO OCTOBER 31, 1996)	

O R D E R

Pursuant to Commission Regulation 807 KAR 5:056, Section 1(12), IT IS HEREBY
ORDERED that:

1. Big Rivers Electric Corporation ("Big Rivers") shall appear in Hearing Room 2 of the Commission's offices at 730 Schenkel Lane, Frankfort, Kentucky, on March 5, 1997 at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, to submit itself to examination on the application of its fuel adjustment clause from November 1, 1994 to October 31, 1996.
2. The procedural schedule set forth in Appendix A to this Order shall be followed.
3. All requests for information and responses thereto shall be appropriately indexed. All responses shall include the name of the witness who will be responsible for responding to the questions related to the information provided, with copies to all parties of record and 10 copies to the Commission.

4. Big Rivers shall notify its customers in writing of the date, time, place, and purpose of the hearing or shall publish such notice in accordance with 807 KAR 5:011, Section 8(5).

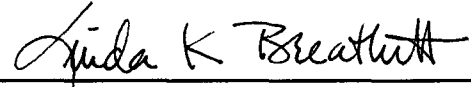
5. All documents which Big Rivers filed with the Commission pursuant to 807 KAR 5:056, Section 1(7) and 1(9) during the period under review are incorporated by reference into the record of this proceeding.


6. The records of Cases No. 90-360-C, 94-458, 94-458-A, 94-458-B, and 94-458-C are incorporated by reference into the record of this proceeding.

7. Big Rivers shall, on or before December 13, 1996, file with the Commission an original and 10 copies of the information requested in Appendix B. Each copy shall be placed in a bound volume with each item tabbed. When a number of sheets are required for an item, each sheet should be appropriately indexed; for example, Item 1(a), Sheet 2 of 6. Big Rivers shall furnish with each response the name of the witness who will be available at the public hearing to respond to questions concerning each area of information requested. Careful attention shall be given to copied material to ensure its legibility.


Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 14th day of November, 1996.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director


Commissioner

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 96-521 DATED NOVEMBER 14, 1996.

Big Rivers' response to the Commission's Order shall be filed no later than	12/13/96
Intervenor testimony shall be filed with the Commission in verified prepared form no later than	12/27/96
All requests for information to intervenors shall be served on intervenors no later than	01/10/97
Intervenors shall mail or deliver responses to the requests for information no later than	01/24/97
Big Rivers' testimony shall be filed in verified prepared form with the Commission no later than	02/06/97
All requests for information to Big Rivers shall be served on Big Rivers no later than	02/19/97
Big Rivers shall serve responses to the requests for information no later than	02/26/97
Last day for Big Rivers to publish notice of hearing date	02/26/97
Formal hearing	03/05/97

APPENDIX B

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 96-521 DATED NOVEMBER 14, 1996

1. State the month to be used as the base period (b). Include a comprehensive, detailed explanation of the factors considered in the selection of this month as being representative of the net generating cost per KWH which Big Rivers will incur between November 1, 1996 and October 31, 1998 ("the next 2-year period").

2. Provide a calculation of the fossil fuel costs F(b) that Big Rivers proposes to use to calculate the base period fuel cost. This calculation should show each component of F as defined by 807 KAR 5:056. Explain why the fuel cost in the selected base period is representative of the level of fuel cost which Big Rivers will incur during the next 2-year period.

3. Provide a schedule showing each component of sales as defined by 807 KAR 5:056 in the selected base period (b). Explain why Big Rivers believes that the sales in the selected base period (b) are representative of the level of KWH sales which Big Rivers will derive from the level of fuel cost incurred during the selected base period (b).

4. Provide a schedule showing the calculation of Big Rivers' proposed increase or decrease in its base fuel cost per KWH to be incorporated to its base rate.

5. Provide Big Rivers' most recent projected fuel requirements for the years 1997 and 1998 in tons and dollars.

6. Provide Big Rivers' most recent sales projections for the years 1997 and 1998 in KWH and dollars.

7. Provide separately the amounts of power purchases used in the calculation of sales provided in response to Item 3.

8. Provide separately the amounts of inter-system power sales used in the calculation of sales provided in response to Item 3.

9. Provide the planned maintenance schedule for each of Big Rivers' generating units for the period November 1, 1996 to October 31, 1998.

10. For the years ending October 31, 1995 and October 31, 1996, provide:

- a. maximum annual system demand
- b. average annual demand.

11. List all firm power commitments for Big Rivers from November 1, 1996 through October 31, 1998 for (a) purchases and (b) sales. This list shall identify the electric utility, the amount of commitment in MW and the purpose of the commitment (e.g., peaking, emergency).

12. Provide a monthly billing summary for sales to all electric utilities for the period November 1, 1994 through October 31, 1996.

13. a. Provide a schedule of the calculation of the 12-month average line loss by month for November 1994 through October 1996.

b. What actions has Big Rivers taken to reduce line loss during this period?

14. List Big Rivers' scheduled, actual, and forced outages between May 1, 1996 and October 31, 1996.

15. List all existing fuel contracts categorized as long-term (i.e., more than 1 year in length). Provide the following information for each contract:

- a. Supplier's name and address;
- b. Name and location of production facility;
- c. Date when contract executed;
- d. Duration of contract;
- e. Date(s) of each contract revision, modification or amendment;
- f. Annual tonnage requirements;
- g. Actual annual tonnage received since the contract's inception;
- h. Percent of annual requirements received during the contract's term;
- i. Base price;
- j. Total amount of price escalations to date; and
- k. Current price paid for coal under the contract (i + j).

16. Provide a schedule of the present and proposed rates which Big Rivers seeks to change pursuant to 807 KAR 5:056, shown in comparative form.

17. Provide a statement showing by cross-outs and italicized inserts all proposed changes in rates. A copy of the current tariff may be used.

18. a. Does Big Rivers regularly perform any type of coal price comparison with other electric utilities on coal purchases?

b. If yes, state:

(1) how Big Rivers compares with others for the 6 months ended October 31, 1996.

(2) the utilities which are included in this comparison and their location.

19. What percentage of Big Rivers' coal, as of the date of this Order, which is delivered by:

- a. barge?
- b. rail?
- c. truck?

20. a. State Big Rivers' coal inventory level in tons and in number of day's supply as of November 1, 1996.

b. Describe the criteria used to determine days supply.

c. Compare Big Rivers' coal inventory as of November 1, 1996 to its inventory target for that date.

d. If actual coal inventory exceeds inventory target by 10 days' supply, state the reasons for excessive inventory.

e. (1) Does Big Rivers expect any significant changes in its current coal inventory target within the next 12 months?

(2) If yes, state the expected change and the reasons for this change.

21. a. Has Big Rivers audited any of its coal contracts during the period under review?

b. If yes, for each audited contract:

- (1) identify the contract.
- (2) identify the auditor.
- (3) state the results of the audit.

(4) describe the actions which Big Rivers took as a result of the audit.

22. a. Has Big Rivers received any customer complaints regarding its fuel adjustment clause during the period under review?

b. If yes, for each complaint, state:

(1) the nature of the complaint.

(2) Big Rivers' response.

23. a. Is Big Rivers currently involved in any litigation with its current or former coal suppliers not identified in the record of Case No. 94-458-C?

b. If yes, for each litigation:

(1) Identify the coal supplier.

(2) Identify the coal contract involved.

(3) State the potential liability or recovery to Big Rivers.

(4) List the issues present.

(5) Provide a copy of the complaint or other legal pleading which initiated the litigation.

c. State the current status of all litigation with coal suppliers.

24. List each written coal supply solicitation issued during the period from May 1, 1996 to October 31, 1996.

a. For each, provide the date of the solicitation, the type of solicitation (contract or spot), the quantities solicited, a general description of the quality of coal solicited, the time period over which deliveries were requested, and the generating unit(s) for which the coal was intended.

b. For each, state the number of vendors to which the solicitation was sent, the number of vendors which responded, and the selected vendor. Provide the bid tabulation sheet or corresponding document which ranked the proposals. (This document should identify all vendors which made offers.) Briefly discuss the reasons for each selection.

25. List each oral coal supply solicitation issued during the period from May 1, 1996 to October 31, 1996.

a. For each, provide a brief explanation of why the solicitation was not written, the date(s) of the solicitation, the quantities solicited, a general description of the quality of coal solicited, the time period over which deliveries were requested, and the generating unit(s) for which the coal was intended.

b. For each, identify all vendors solicited and the vendor selected. Provide the tabulation sheet or other document which ranked the proposals. (This document should identify all vendors who made offers.) Briefly discuss the reasons for each selection.

26. For the period from May 1, 1996 to October 31, 1996:

a. List each vendor from which coal was purchased and the quantities and the nature of each purchase (e.g., spot or contract).

b. State the number of solicitations issued to each vendor listed in part (a), identified as contract or spot solicitations, and the number of proposals made by each vendor in response to the solicitations.

27. For each generating station or unit for which a separate coal pile is maintained:

a. State, for the period from May 1, 1996 to October 31, 1996, the actual amount of coal burned in tons, actual amount of coal deliveries in tons, total KWH generated, and actual capacity factor at which the plant operated.

b. State the amount of contract deliveries in tons, estimated KWH generation if amount of coal burned was equal to contract deliveries, and estimated capacity factor at this estimated generation level.

28. a. During the period under review, have there been any changes to Big Rivers' written policies and procedures regarding its fuel procurement?

b. If yes,

(1) What were these changes?

(2) Provide these written policies and procedures as changed.

(3) When were these changes made?

(4) Why were they made?

29. a. Is Big Rivers aware of any violations of its policies and procedures regarding fuel procurement which occurred prior to or during the period under review?

b. If yes, for each violation:

(1) Describe the violation.

(2) Describe action which Big Rivers took upon discovering the violation.

(3) Identify the person(s) who committed the violation.

30. Identify all changes in the organizational structure and personnel of the departments or divisions which are responsible for Big Rivers' fuel procurement activities which occurred during the period under review.

31. Describe Big Rivers' accounting process for coal purchases that include emission allowances. Your description should list all accounting entries made to record such purchase and should address the following questions:

a. If Big Rivers purchases a coal that includes emission allowances, will its initial entry to the coal inventory account balance include the portion of the cost allocated to emission allowances?

b. How is the allocation of cost to emission allowances reflected in Big Rivers' initial accounting entries?

c. When does the allocation occur (i.e., before or after Big Rivers has received the allowances)?

d. What accounting entries are required if the coal vendor does not provide the contracted allowances in total?

32. For each Big Rivers' coal purchase which included emission allowances made during this two-year review period identify:

- a. The sales agent.
- b. The coal producer.
- c. The average monthly tonnage purchased.
- d. The term of the contract or purchase order.
- e. The actual BTU of the coal purchased.
- f. The SO₂ per MMBTU.
- g. The number of emission allowances purchased.
- h. The total purchase price.

i. The amount of the purchase price allocated to coal.

j. The amount of the purchase price allocated to emission allowances.

33. a. During the period from November 1, 1994 to October 31, 1996, has Big Rivers recovered any monies through judicial or administrative actions involving its fuel procurement activities?

b. If yes,

(1) identify the source and date of each recovery.

(2) describe the circumstances of each recovery.